

realencouragement

Lakeshore Community Church

realencouragement.org

Volume 14, No. 3

There's A "Building Excitement" At Lakeshore!



While the Lakeshore Community Center addition takes shape, there is more to be excited about this Fall than the building completion.

What a great Summer we've had. Weather wise? Not until recently. Church wise? Most definitely.

Consider all that we've enjoyed: an amazing wedding vow renewal service and reception, hundreds at Community Day on July 4th, the Joint Service and picnic with four other churches to break down the walls of racism and unite in Christ, the Leadership Summit with great attendance, two stirring baptism celebrations, many people trained and ready to lead a Community Group this Fall, and the winding down of the "Leadership Matters" series in Nehemiah that has helped us learn so much from one of the great leaders in the Bible.

With Summer winding down, the excitement will continue this Fall through a number of important and encouraging events that we've planned.

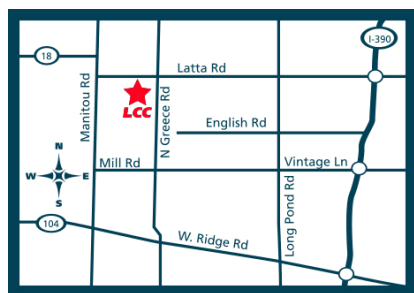
1) **The Lakeshore Community Center volunteer effort.** The "LC2" is nearing completion and now we need volunteers to help with many projects on virtually every day of the week. Painting, cleaning, building, sawing, nailing and the like are needed. No matter your level of expertise, we can use your help. Sign up at the Info center and be at part of putting the final touches on the "LC2". You can get updates at www.lakeshorechurch.org (click on the FTW link).

2) **"Just Walk Across The Room" Community Groups.** Starting on September 13, we're beginning a new Sunday series with this title. A week later, September 20, we will begin church-wide Community Groups where an estimated 30 groups will be meeting for four consecutive weeks (offered on every night of the week, including Sundays) to take this subject matter even deeper. There is a group that will fit your schedule.

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Real Encouragement is published quarterly as a ministry of Lakeshore Community Church.

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Next Edition

The due date for articles for the next edition of Real Encouragement is to be determined. Submitting articles and photos early is appreciated. Submit text and photos by email to Amy Mitchell at royalfamily12@gmail.com

There's A "Building Excitement" At Lakeshore! (continued from page 1)

This series is both critical and timely because we will learn how to share our faith with others in very effective ways AND then apply very practical action items that we'll take from every service and Community Group so we really reach out to our family and friends. We're tying this into the "LC2" Grand Opening outreach series in October so the opportunity is golden and the stakes are really high. Wouldn't it be great if God helps us reach waves of people like He did when we moved into this building? He can if we follow His will and He decides to do another amazing thing here.

So make sure that you:

- 1) Attend services every week,
- 2) Sign up for a Community Group at church ASAP,
- 3) Purchase a "JWATR" group study guide (\$7). Please buy one per adult as assignments require you to have your own individual guide,
- 4) Pray that we'll reach many people who desperately need someone to just... well... "walk across the room" and tell them about the love of God in Christ.

It's easy to see how there is a building excitement here at Lakeshore. More than our new building itself, we have an open door to reach more people this Fall than we have since 2004 when we moved in. I'm excited thinking about all that God will do this Fall in us and through us.

Are you?

Warmly,



Pastor Vince



Finishing The Work

By Pastor Herb Lawrence

Our Finishing the Work campaign is thirty-three weeks into the three year monthly giving (through August 16, 2009). Our pledges totaled \$1,357,103 composed of \$574,028 in up-front gifts and \$783,075 over three years (weekly, monthly, annual and special pledges).

To date we have received \$711,424 consisting of \$580,493 up-front gifts and \$130,931 toward the 3 year total. Percentage-wise, we have received 52% of the total pledged, 101% of pledged up-front gifts, and 17% of the 3 Year total pledge. Using the three-year time (target = 33/156) we are 21% into the campaign. Using the pledged up-front and time target percentage of the three year total we are 55% into the campaign dollar-wise.

The table below illustrates where we stand on Finishing The Work.

	Pledge	Up Front	Over 3 Years
Pledge	\$1,357,103	\$574,028	\$783,075
Actual	\$711,424	\$580,493	\$76,341
Actual TD Percent	52%	101%	17%
Target TD Percentage	55%	100%	21%

The Friend Ship Company We're Sailing with God!

Our Sunday morning program: It's a King Thing! has been a BIG success this summer. Kids and teachers have had lots of fun learning leadership qualities from Bible kings.

A small yet lively group of Lakeshore families caught some summer at Seabreeze on August 16th. We enjoyed family and friend time while cooling off on the water slides, eating supper together and seeing who was brave enough to ride on the Screaming Eagle!

Our next big event is the Friend Ship Company Kick-off Picnic on Sunday, September 20th. It will be after the 11:00 service in the pavilion and all Friend Company **kids** and **volunteers** and **their families** are invited. Keep an eye out for flyers in the classrooms with all the details.

Every Sunday and Common Ground Thursday, a group of volunteers works hard to provide a terrific program that your kids will enjoy and want to return to. Both the Friend Ship Company and the Kids' CAFÉ need more volunteers. We invite you to join us in doing God's joyful work!

Please be sure to pick up a "Parent Link" newsletter in any of the Friend Ship Company classrooms. It's full of useful information on parenting and the latest trends.

***The Children's Ministry guides our children towards God
through worshipping, learning and growing together.***



Save The Date!

Today

Sign up for *Just Walk Across The Room* Community Groups and purchase your study guide at the JWATR table in the atrium after both services.

September 12, 2009

Join us for the Synergy Prayer Event at 9am this and each second Saturday of the month!

September 17, 2009

The annual *Lakeshore Vision Meeting* at 7pm in the auditorium. Catch the dream of LCC!

June 12, 2010

The 3rd Annual Meaghan's 5K Race/Walk, benefiting the Wilmot and Lipson Cancer Centers, will be held at Lakeshore Community Church. Stay tuned for more details next spring.



Lead Where You Are: The Leadership Summit 2009

By Amy Mitchell

I had the privilege of attending this year's Leadership Summit. It was an incredible opportunity to hear from a wide range of individuals. Following the Summit, I asked some of Lakeshore's leaders what had an impact on them and how it might influence their ministry. Here are some of the responses:

"Dave Gibbons talked about how we have to change the dynamic of 'our' churches. We need to be third culture leaders that focus on the fringe, the misfits – not the masses. He mentioned that Jesus was on the fringe and look at the HUGE ministry he evolved. Being a third culture leader is not easy, actually requires painful adaptation. The thing that got me the most was how in prayer a lot of us don't necessarily believe in the power of the Holy Spirit . . . we need to change that."

-Stephanie Supernault, Lakeshore Executive Secretary

"I found the Summit extremely beneficial to me as a leader at LCC as well as a leader in my professional life. As our LCC Lead Team continues to develop our Strategic Plan, I'm hoping that we will take what we learned over the last two days and really focus on them. As an example, some questions we should be asking ourselves (per Bill Hybels):

Are our absolute key positions filled?

Are these positions filled with the right people?

Are we developing back-up people for these positions?

"When talking about strategy, Hybels challenges us to not invent a good strategy but to reinvent our current strategy. Dave Gibbons tells us to forget about creating a vision, we already have a vision: Love God and love your neighbor . . . let's build a strategy around continually achieving that vision.

"Chip and Dan Heath instruct us to focus on what's going well on our teams, not on the things that are bad that we can't do anything about. I like that suggestion and plan to heed their advice."

-Mary Neidert, Greet Team

"I was particularly drawn to Harvey Carey in Session 4: Against All Odds. I can't get past his analogy on going to watch a football game and all the team does is huddle and then leave the stadium. He was stressing the need for us to get out of the church and into the community where people in need live.

"I have been personally involved in Celebrate Recovery for over 4 years. This ministry is very close to my heart and has built onto my belief foundation and relationship with God. While I believed in miracles, I never saw the miracles until God opened my eyes and heart in Celebrate Recovery. I see everyday simple miracles of people seeing themselves with new eyes and dependent on our Savior. People often arrive timid and turn into self-assured people through God's grace and blessings to work on their hurts, habits or hang-ups.

"While Celebrate Recovery is a program with open doors, I heard Pastor Carey tell me I need to go out into the community to help those that either don't know about CR or are unable to get to a CR program. I need to get out of the huddle and bring this program to women in need of God in their life and walk with them through steps on creating life change.

"And so in the next six months I hope to formulate plans to spread word about this program to our community and actually bring the program to the women in need. I ask for your prayers as I start this endeavor."

-Mary Ellen Britt, Celebrate Recovery

LCC Announces New Singles Ministry

By Paul Clark

I filled out a comment card one Sunday morning, committing to help start a Singles Ministry here at Lakeshore. After discussions with Pastor Vince, Lakeshore staff, elders, singles (and former singles), a Lakeshore Singles Ministry is coming to life.

The mission and vision of the ministry are taking shape and the goal is to develop spiritually strong singles through social activities, outreach, groups and teaching. The next step is to assign a pastor or elder to provide oversight and guidance to the group.

The Singles Ministry will serve all ages of adults who are single by “choice, chance, change or circumstance,” by recognizing the unique needs and opportunities of ministry to, with and for single adults. Lakeshore already has a Young Adult Ministry (“The Nugget”) that ministers to people in their twenties. The Singles Ministry will focus on single adults over the age of thirty, although twenty-something singles would be welcome to participate. The unique mission of the Singles Ministry will complement, rather than compete with, other Lakeshore ministries by focusing on *single* adults.

If you are a single adult, this will be an excellent opportunity to connect to other singles, the community, and the Church while growing in your spiritual walk.

We will start with a singles community group for the upcoming series “*Just Walk Across the Room*” that will meet four Saturday evenings in September and October (sign up at the Community Group table in the lobby). Building on that momentum, the Singles Ministry will continue to hold regular Saturday meetings and the first few get-togethers will be “working” meetings to discuss and develop our vision.

Initially we will emphasize fellowship and getting to know each other. Then we will grow slowly and naturally, allowing the members and leaders to define the group’s personality and purpose.

Lakeshore invites singles to experience fellowship, develop healthy friendships, and grow spiritually within this new ministry. Please contact me, Paul Clark, at 729-8796 or pclark2@rochester.rr.com for more information.

Lakeshore Community Church believes that *all* demographics should serve and be served by the church, and with the introduction of a Singles Ministry, we will build *spiritually strong singles!*



What If?

By MaryAnn Meisenzahl

I attend a weekly community Bible study group for women. Part of our assignment one week was to answer the question; "How would you want people to remember you?" We had one week to think about it. I needed every second of that week as I thought of the people who knew me, and wondered about their varied responses.

We met that Wednesday morning and the brave opened first with their stories. I was impressed with the truth and humility of the group. These women, young and old, from different backgrounds and life skills, laid bare their personal struggles and successes. There was a common thread among the stories being woven into a colorful fabric of life. It was love: love of family, others, and most assuredly God.

One woman, Alice, told how she hoped she would be remembered. It was something one of her academically challenged students had said to her. Many years after teaching him music at School Number 16 in the city of Rochester, he went looking for her at her new position at the Hochstein School of Music. Surprised, she asked this young man how he knew she was there. His reply was, "I went to School 16 and could feel you in the walls of the school. I had to find you to tell you." That statement grabbed me and I ran it over and over in my mind. Alice poured her prayers, her heart and soul into her music and students so fervently that one young man believed the building and the teacher to be one. He was confident she was there and he walked into her space to seek her.

I think of her story often. I can only wonder what our lives and our world would be like if we were to walk daily with Jesus filling the walls of our hearts. Just to know that we could walk into any situation, no matter how frightening or challenging, with the faith that our Lord is with us, gives me great comfort. Who would we touch? Which uttered words would stir another? What miracles would God complete through us?

God has plans for each of us. Some are as large as a building filled with music and others as small as a whisper, but each one great in the eyes of our Lord. Jesus, in Revelation 3:20 says, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me." Open the door. Open your hearts to our Savior, Jesus Christ. Who knows what mountains may be moved through us. He is waiting to be invited into your space.

Baptisms at Lakeshore: August 1 and 22, 2009

By Stephanie Supernault

To most of the staff and members, baptisms are the best day of the year. It is when we can share similar stories of tragedies, faith and triumphs...and have cake too! Baptism is the way we show the world our utter faith and belief in Christ. Among those to perform this joyous expression are:

August 1, 2009

Lon Schwenzer, Nikki LaDue, William Meisenzahl, Emily Mejia, Sam Mejia, Michael Wilcox, Don and Robin Haefner, and Jason Hartman. We didn't have a group shot of this bunch, but below are a few candid shots of the ceremony itself.



August 22, 2009

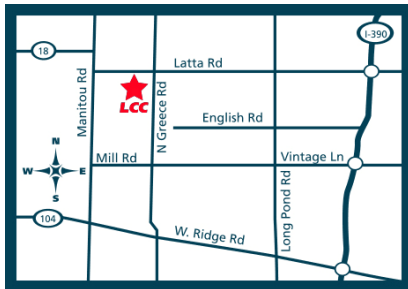
Justin Lane, Leandra Price, Ken Oemcke, Sandy Oemcke, Laurie DiLorenzo, Carmen Smith and Dan Dollinger. Also shown is Brian Hartman, Dan Kilker, Elder and Sr. Pastor Vince DiPaola.



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Want an email update of all that's happening at Lakeshore?
Sign up for "This Week At Lakeshore" via our website www.lakeshorechurch.org

SUNDAY SERVICES

LEADERSHIP MATTERS (Nehemiah)

09/06 God's Word: The Power To Transform Your Life

JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM

09/13 The Answer To Almost Every Question
09/20 The Single Greatest Gift
09/27 Living In 3D
10/04 The Power Of Story
10/11 Grander Vision Living

COMMON GROUND MIDWEEK SERVICE

HEBREWS: OUR SUPERIOR SAVIOR

9/3 Enduring Hardship (12:1-13)
9/10 Refuse God Nothing (12:14-29)
9/17 Vision Night 2009
9/22 The Meaning Of Halloween (Happy Holidays, Pt 1)
11/05 Stay Faithful (13:1-25)
11/19 The Meaning of Thanksgiving (Happy Holidays, Pt 2)
12/03 The Meaning of Christmas (Happy Holidays, Pt 3)